Chapter - VI

Summary of Findings and Conclusions
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The study reveals that buffalo rearing is main subsidiary occupation commonly adopted by the farmers belonging to other backward castes (OBC) category in the area under study.

The educational status of the sample buffalo owners was deplorably poor in the whole area under study.

The maximum number of buffaloes raised was found to be own farm produced which clarifies that the buffalo owners are either satisfied with their own produced breeds or habitual of raising their own breeds.

The area of land owned per buffalo owner was found to be increasing as the size-groups of the herds of buffaloes was increasing in the area under study.

Regarding family composition of buffalo owners it was found that the number of children per household was higher on an average in both the regions. This was also found and observed that the assistance of grownup children was most suitable for rearing of buffaloes on their farms.

It was also found that the buffalo owners raising higher numbers of buffaloes had generally higher numbers of households members which was also found to be suitable for the maintenance of buffaloes in the area under the study.
As regards the work-force on the farms of buffalo owners it was found that majority of family farm workers were full time workers, wherein the number of female farm workers and permanent labourers was quite negligible. The number of full time family farm workers was higher in Koraon Block in comparison of the same in Kaurihar Block. While the number of part time farm workers and permanent labourers was lower in Koraon Block.

Among the non-farm workers, the numbers of female workers was comparatively higher than male workers and the number of servicemen per family was also higher in Koraon Block.

The size of holdings was found to be higher i.e. 5.98 hectares in Koraon Block against 3.99 hectares in Kaurihar Block. The irrigated area was also higher in Koraon Block. The maximum area of owned land was found to be cultivated land.

In respect of farm buildings, Kaurihar Block was better than Koraon Block. In Kaurihar Block the area under kachcha buildings was higher, while in Koraon Block the area under pakka buildings was higher on an over all average. In case of farm buildings the Kaurihar Block had comparatively better conditions than the Koraon Block.

In Kaurihar Block the buffalo owners had irrigation facilities on their farms. The cost on irrigation structures was found increasing with the increase in the size of farms which confirms that larger size groups had better irrigation facilities.

In Koraon Block the maintenance of machines and
implements was comparatively more costly affair merely because of the higher number of tractors in this Block.

In Koraon Block the number of livestocks as well as buffaloes was comparatively much lower. Thus, it was less developed block.

The larger size-groups of buffalo herds included the larger number of livestocks on the farms of buffalo owners particularly in Gangapar Region (Kaurihar Block).

In Kharif season out of the total cropped area (4.73 hectares/farm) about 3.02 hectares was covered by paddy crop alone.

While during Rabi season the cropped area per farm was estimated to 4.64 hectares of which the maximum i.e. 3.00 hectares was covered under wheat.

During Zaid season the total cropped area per farm was estimated to 0.61 hectares of which 0.46 hectares was covered under fodder.

The gross cropped area was estimated to 9.98 hectares per farm of which maximum i.e. 4.73 hectares was covered during kharif, 4.64 hectares in rabi and only 0.61 hectares during zaid. The cropping intensity was 210.90% on an average in the area under study. The coverage in Koraon Block was almost comparatively more intensive than that in Kaurihar Block.

Regarding expenses on maintenance of buffaloes it is found that buffalo rearing in Kaurihar Block was comparatively more
expensive than that in Koraon Block. The expenses on almost all the items were found increasing with the increase in the size groups of herds of buffaloes.

The month-wise record of milk production clarifies that during summer the production was lowest and during winter it was highest particularly in the month of December. It was also found that among large size groups of buffalo herds the production of milk was higher in both the regions of the area under study.

The average price of milk per litre was lowest during July to October and highest during March to June. It is also evidently clear in this study that during rainy season the prices were lowest and during summer the prices were exorbitantly highest particularly in Koraon Block. It was also found that buffalo owners of small herds used to sell their milk on higher prices than the buffalo owners of larger herds in both the regions of the area under the study.

The maintenance cost increased tremendously with the increase in the size of herds varying from Rs. 60.68 thousand in size group-I to Rs. 4.36 lakhs per buffalo owner in size group-III. This highlights that larger farms were comparatively more expensive. The cost of production also increased with the increase in the size of herds.

The net cost of production of milk per litre was accounted as Rs. 10.05 on an average. In Koraon Block it was higher i.e. Rs. 11.16 per litre against Rs. 8.77 per litre in Kaurihar Block.

The marketing cost per litre was estimated to Rs. 1.28 on an
average. In Kaurihar Block it was slightly higher and on small farms it was also higher in comparison of the same in Koraon Block.

The margin charged was higher on the farms of large size-group and was comparatively higher on the farms of Kaurihar Block.

The gross price received per litre was Rs. 11.75 on an average. In Koraon Block it was higher i.e. Rs. 13.00 per litre against Rs. 10.50 per litre in Kaurihar Block. The gross price was found decreasing with the increase in the size of farms and with higher prices in Koraon Block.

Regarding disposal of milk it was found that the maximum amount of the total milk produced was sold either to the vendors or cooperatives. A nominal amount was found to be sold to the others in both the selected Blocks of the area under study.

The overall average percentage of marketed surpluses to the total milk produced was estimated to 96.05 percent. In Kaurihar Block it was 97.08% against 93.21% in Koraon Block. The total marketable surplus was reported as marketed surplus in both the Blocks.

Among the marketing expenses incurred in case of vendors the maximum was found to be incurred on account of only transport charges. The next item of expenses was labours followed by utensils charges. The expenses were found increasing with the increase in the size of herds.
In case of selling milk to cooperatives also the maximum expenses were incurred on transport charges. The pattern of expenses was found to be similar on the farms of various size groups.

In case of milk being sold to other agencies it was found that the maximum expenses incurred was on account of labour charges. In Kaurihar Block it was comparatively much higher than that in Koraon Block due to higher labour and transport charges. The charges were higher on large farms.

Regarding price spread and marketing efficiency in case of small buffalo owners in Kaurihar Block the share of producer in consumer's rupees was 98.46% in channel-I against 94.81% in channel-II. Thus, in Kaurihar Block the marketing efficiency in channel-I, was higher than in channel-II in case of small buffalo owners. In Koraon Block too channel-I was efficient than channel-II.

As regards the price spread and marketing efficiency in case of medium buffalo owners also the producer's share in consumer's rupees was higher i.e. 96% in channel-I against only 92.30% in channel-II. Thus, in Kaurihar Block channel-I was comparatively more efficient than channel-II in case of medium owners. In Koraon Block too channel-I was comparatively more efficient than channel-II in case of medium owners.

Regarding the price spread and marketing efficiency in case of large buffalo owners in Kaurihar Block the producer's share in consumer's rupees was higher i.e. 95.34% in channel-I against
93.18% in channel-II. Thus, channel-I was comparatively more efficient than channel-II in case of large owners of Kaurihar Block. In Koraon Block too channel-I was found to be comparatively more efficient than channel-II in case of large buffalo owners.

Among the problems in production and marketing of milk as expressed by the buffalo owners there were four main problems i.e. (1) Problems of rearing purpose, procurement and breed of buffaloes, (2) Problem in rearing of buffaloes, (3) Problem in milk production and (4) Problem in milk marketing.

Regarding problem relating to rearing purpose, procurement and breed of buffaloes 59% of owners expressed to rear buffaloes for commercial purposes against 41% who rear buffaloes only as supplementary business to crop enterprise. For procurement they expressed that they prefer to rear own produced breeds. About 77% of owners expressed that they are satisfied with their own produced breeds.

For the problem relating to rearing of buffaloes the maximum number of owners reported about their problems of sheds and milking. The other burning problems were about the feeds and yards. For medicines they had no problems at all. The problems of milking and sheds were more acute in Kaurihar Block than that in Koraon Block.

In case of problems relating to milk production on an average 81% of owners expressed their problems about quality of milk, 41% about quantity of milk and 59% about other problems of milk
production and 31% complained about the problem of marketable surplus. In Kaurihar Block 90% complained about quality of milk against 72% in Koraon Block. The problems of milk production was complained by the buffalo owners of all the size groups of herds.

Regarding the problems relating to marketing of milk about 64% of owners had no problems on an average. In Kaurihar Block 40% of owners complained about their problems of low marketable surplus against 32% in Koraon Block. Among 3 size-groups about 63% of small owners (size group-I) had complained about this problem. The problems of low prices, poor transportation and inadequate utensils were also complained by majority of buffalo owners.

Suggestions viewed and expressed by the buffalo owners for improvements in production and marketing of 79% of owners suggested to rear buffaloes for commercial purposes. In Koraon Block 80% opined for rearing buffaloes for commercial purpose against 78% in Kaurihar Block. 86% of owners of large size-group opined to rear more numbers of buffaloes. 87% of owners suggested to rear own produced breeds of buffaloes.

For improvements in rearing of buffaloes 94% suggested to improve the problem of milking which was a burning problem. 90% of owners suggested to improve problems of sheds, 82% suggested to improve the problems of feeds and 49% to improve problems of yards. 88% of owners had no problems of medicines. Among various size-groups, the owners of large herds had more acute problems of milking, sheds and feeds against the small
owners of buffaloes.

For improvements in milk production, 86% of owners suggested for betterment in quality against 84% of owners in Koraon Block. 100% of large owners of Koraon Block opined to improve quality against 84% and 85% of medium and small owners. 62% suggested to improve other problems of milk production.

For improvements in marketing of milk 65% of owners had expressed that they had no any problem of low marketable surplus. Among small owners 78% had suggested to improve the problem of low marketable surplus in both the Blocks. 59% of owners had suggested to improve the problems of low prices. 81% of owners suggested to improve the poor transportation. 78% of owners suggested for improvements in utensils, high fees and taxes etc. 78% of owners suggested to improve the other problems of marketing of milk.

CONCLUSIONS

From the findings of the study it is concluded that dairying is the main and gainful subsidiary occupation of the farmers of OBC category in the area under study.

Secondary and higher level education among the farmers scattered in the area under study requires to be upgraded.

On the basis of milk produced by the buffalo owners it is concluded that the buffalo owners of Kaurihar Block (Gangapar
Region) had produced more milk in comparison of the buffalo owners of Koraon Block (Yamunapar Region) of Allahabd District.

In the area under the study it was evidently clarified that larger farmers had raised larger numbers of buffaloes.

This was also found and observed that the assistance of grown up children was most suitable for rearing of buffaloes on their farms.

The households having larger members were also found suitable for the maintenance of buffaloes in the area under the study. Regarding rearing of buffaloes it is concluded that buffalo owners of Koraon Block (Yamunapar Region) face more hardship in raising buffaloes on their farms.

It is also concluded that in Koroan Block (Yamunapar Region) the maximum area of the farms of buffalo owners was cultivated and fully irrigated in the areas under study.

Although, the area under pakka buildings was higher in Koroan Block, but the conditions of farm buildings was comparatively better in Kaurihar Block.

As regards the irrigation facilities it is concluded that the buffalo owners/farmers belonging to larger category had better irrigation facilities. In Koraon Block the maintenance of machines was costly affair only due to higher number of tractors in this region.

Due to lesser number of buffaloes in Koraon Block as
compared to the same in Kaurihar Block it is concluded that Kaurihar Block (Gangapar Region) is comparatively much developed in raising buffaloes as dairy animals.

Regarding cropped area it is concluded that Koraon Block (Yamunapar Region) was main paddy producing zone during kharif season and wheat producing zone during rabi season. During zaid season due to rearing of animals the farmers use to grow fodder.

It is also concluded that during kharif and rabi the entire Cultivated area was covered on most of the farms. Thus, cropping intensity was 210.99% on an average in the area under the study. The coverage under Koraon Block was more intensive.

It is also concluded that buffalo rearing in Kaurihar Block (Gangapar Region) was comparatively much profitable than in Koraon Block (Yamunapar Region).

It was a common phenomenon that buffalo owners of small herds used to sell their milk on higher prices than the buffalo owners of larger herds in both the regions of the area under the study.

The net cost of production of milk in Koroan Block was much higher as compared to the same in Kaurihar Block.

The marketing cost as well as market margin charged was higher on the farms of Kaurihar Block as compared to the same in Koraon Block.

The gross price received by the owners was higher in Koraon.
Block and was found decreasing with the increase in the size of farms.

The total marketable surplus was reported as marketed surplus in both the regions of the area under the study.

The marketing expenses were found increasing with the increase in the size of herds.

The pattern of expenses was found to be similar on the farms of various size groups. It is also concluded that due to presence of cooperatives the expenses were normal in Koraon Block than in Kaurihar Block.

It is also concluded that small buffalo owners generally do not sell milk to others.

In Kaurihar Block the marketing efficiency was comparatively higher in channel-I than in channel-II. In Koraon Block too channel-I was efficient than channel-II in case of small owners of buffaloes.

In case of medium owners also in Kaurihar Block channel-I was comparatively more efficient than channel-II and in Koraon Block too channel-I was more efficient than channel-II.

In case of large owners also channel-I was more efficient than channel-II in Kaurihar Block. In Koraon Block too the channel-I was comparatively more efficient than channel-II.

The main problems of production and marketing of milk expressed by buffalo owners were (1) Problems of rearing purpose,
procurement and breed, (2) Problems in rearing buffaloes, (3) Problems in milk production and (4) Problems in milk marketing.

The majority of owners expressed to rear buffaloes for commercial purpose and about 77% expressed that they are satisfied with their own produced breeds.

The problems of milking and sheds were more acute in Kaurihar Block than in Koraon Block.

The problems of milk production was complained by the buffalo owners of all the size-groups of herds.

The problems of low prices, poor transportation and inadequate utensils were also complained by majority of buffalo owners.

About 86% of the owners of large size-groups opined to rear more numbers of buffaloes. About 87% of owners suggested to rear own produced breeds of buffaloes.

Among various size-groups, the owners of larger herds had more acute problems of milking, sheds and feeds against the small owners of buffaloes.

For improvements in milk production 100% of large owners of Koraon Block opined to improve quality of milk.

For improvement in marketing of milk 65% of owners expressed that they had no any problem of low marketable surplus. About 59% of owners suggested to improve problems of low prices and 81% suggested to improve poor transportation.